

SYSTEM FOR COMMUNICATING THROUGH MAPS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communications system to post arbitrary information to any geographical region simply by outlining the region on a map in the system's user interface and attaching the information to the outlined region is provided. The outlined region can be of any size, e.g., a city block, a neighborhood, a county, and defines the information's "region of relevance". Any user of the system can also browse and receive these geographically relevant postings simply by identifying a point or region of interest on one of the system's maps. Uses of the system range from personal communication of questions and announcements to a geographically identified group, to governmental and commercial news and announcements aimed at a particular population, to "virtual billboards" for advertising.

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